

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Thomas A. Powers	) Group Art Unit:	Not yet assigned	
Serial No.	10/785,514	) Examiner:	Not yet assigned	
Filed:	02/24/2004		I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via First Class Mail in an	
For:	IMPROVED SIDE SEAL STRAPPING MACHINE	) Box 1450, Alexandria,	to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. VA 22913-1450:	
Attorney  Docket No.: 14355 (6365/91348)		) 5/24/04 Date Corri Feuer	stein	
DOORCE 140	14333 (3303/71340)	, ) )		

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop Amendment P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, a list of documents is disclosed on the attached Form PTO-1449 that may be material to the examination of this application. Listed Documents are U.S. patents, foreign patents and/or published papers that are cited and discussed in the application, and are enclosed herewith.

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a foreign counterpart application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Documents for which the supplied date of publication lists the year of publication without

the month were published sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date, so that the particular month of publication is not in issue. Pursuant to §609 of the MPEP, it is understood that the month of publication is not required when the particular month of publication is not in issue.

No inferences should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. In addition, none of the documents that have publication dates prior to the priority date of the above application anticipate the invention in this application.

The cited document(s) disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the document(s) and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the present invention.

The discussion of any art and the citation of any document(s) herein is not to be construed as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the art or document disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and document(s) recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a

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claim in the instant patent application. The recitation herein of the art and document(s) is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

Respectfully submitted,

By:\_\_\_

Mitchell J. Weinstein

Reg. No. 37,963

May 24, 2004 Enclosures:

> Form PTO-1449 Art (1 document)

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

120 South Riverside Plaza 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor Chicago, Illinois 60606

Telephone: (312) 655-1500 Facsimile: (312) 655-1501

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(Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicant(s) Thomas A. Powers								
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MAI				U.S. PAT	ENT DOCUMENTS	<b>!</b>	<b>. .</b>					
E CAMBRAS	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING IF APPRO				
	A	6,584,892	07/01/2003	Flaum et al.				IFAFFRO	PRIATE			
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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS											
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EXAMINE	R				DATE CONSIDERED							
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.												

Form PTO-A820 (also form PTO-1449)